



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: January 27, 2009

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Facility Planning and Development Division, Airport Department

SUBJECT: Wetland Mitigation Monitoring Biological Services Year 3 Contract

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approve and authorize the Airport Director, subject to approval by the City Attorney as to form, to execute a contract with URS Corporation for post-construction biological monitoring associated with the Airfield Safety Projects and other small projects at the Santa Barbara Airport in an amount not to exceed \$106,847, and authorize the Airport Director to approve expenditures up to \$10,685 for extra services that may result from necessary changes in the scope of work.

DISCUSSION:

The mitigation phase of the Airfield Safety Projects involves approximately 30 acres over three restoration sites in the Goleta Slough: Area I, Tecolotito Creek Relocation Area, and Tecolotito Creek Berms. In order to comply with the Coastal Development Permit issued for the Airfield Safety Projects, these sites must be monitored and maintained for a minimum of seven years. This authorization would provide funding for biological monitoring through the third year, ending December 2009.

In February 2007 the City of Santa Barbara executed Contract No. 22,267 for biological services for Year 1. That contract was extended through August 2008. In July 2008 the City of Santa Barbara executed Contract No. 22,891 with URS Corporation for wetland mitigation monitoring biological services for Year 2, through December 2008. At the conclusion of Year 2, Las Vegas Creek and Firestone Drainage restoration projects were determined to have satisfied their permit criteria because the restored habitat is self sustaining. Therefore these two projects are not included in the Year 3 mitigation monitoring contract.

This contract will cover expenses for Year 3 of the mitigation monitoring effort.

CONSULTANT SELECTION

In September 2006, the Airport solicited for biological monitoring and reporting services associated with this project. Consistent with federal requirements, the consultant selection process followed federal guidelines, which require selection based on the qualifications of the consultant, not a fee-based bid. The fee is negotiated after the best-qualified consultant is identified.

Requests for Proposals were sent to qualified firms, and four responses were received. All four responding firms were interviewed and URS Corporation was ranked as having the best qualifications for the work involved.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Funds for this contract are available in the Airport Federal Aviation Administration Grant Fund and the Airport Department Operational Budget.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

This contract will further the City's Sustainable Santa Barbara Program by enhancing the Goleta Slough ecosystem and protecting it from threats such as invasive plant species.

PREPARED BY: Andrew Bermond, Associate Planner

SUBMITTED BY: Karen Ramsdell, Airport Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office